

English Language Learners

What is required of the state and local school systems to measure the child's development and attainment of English proficiency?

Under the federal NCLB regulations for Title III, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students, states must conduct an annual statewide assessment of English Language Learners (ELL) and local school systems are required to meet Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO) for ELLs from kindergarten through 12th grade. These AMAOs include:

- increases in the number or percentage of children making progress in learning English (AMAO I);
- increases in the number or percentage of children attaining English proficiency by the end of each school year (AMAO II); and
- making adequate yearly progress for limited English proficient children (AMAO III).

Since the 2006-2007 school year, Maryland has made all three required AMAO determinations for the 24 local school systems. Prior to the 2006-2007 school year, Maryland used AMAO I and II only for AMAO determinations.

If your child is an English Language Learner, contact your school's counselor to learn more about instruction and testing plans.